



Ø Beat

Vol. 50

March 2000

No. 3

What makes someone an Old Timer? Browsing a QST from the 50's one finds the term used when referring to hams that had been around in the 30's. So maybe an Old Timer might be a ham that's been licensed for 25 years or so (as with the QCWA). If that's the case, then there are quite a few Old Timers around here, and the March meeting is going to be THE place for them to tell their stories. And although I don't know if this'll work, I'd like to make this newsletter a bit nostalgic, so it looks like an ...

Old Timer's Newsletter



"Shown above are two Colorado Springs amateur radio "hams", Mrs. Myrtle Howard, left, and Mrs. Carol Schisler, as they tuned in for an informal conversation with one of their many radio friends thruout the country. The two are the only active female hams in the Pikes Peak region and among six in [CO]. Seen in the home of Mrs. Schisler ... where her husband has built the above transmitter, they have contacted between them such remote places as Japan, England, South Africa, Panama and the South Pole. Mrs. Schisler, who in 1939, became the first woman in Colorado to obtain an amateur license, formerly taught girl cadets of the Civil Air Patrol here in 1950."

As you probably know by now, March 8th is "Old Timer's Night" at the club meeting. I'm rounding up all the Old Timers I can find so we can have a really good program. I'm making a concerted effort to contact every one in the area who belonged to the club in the years past. If we can round up many of the folks that were in the club years ago, we hope to have them present a completely different picture of what the club and ham radio were like then. Remember, back then a lot of equipment was homebrew, had tubes, and we didn't have the amenities like digital controls, signal processing, and repeaters. So, we'd like to honor these old timers at this meeting. In order to make this a fun and informative evening we want you to bring old equipment, cards and pictures etc to put on display. Also, we need to make sure that folks are informed and invited. We'd like to hear some anecdotes of how it was "back then". We'll put together a little program on this. Maybe these stories will remind *you* of an incident that you can share with us and we can reminisce about the good ol' days. We'll be bringing books of photos and some newspaper clippings. I'm asking you to help make this a special evening by: (a) bringing in something for display, if you can; (b) getting the word out to other hams; or (c) volunteering to relate a little radio history. Come to this meeting and be part of this celebration. Age is not a factor on this one, just the amount of time you've been licensed: 25 years or more. So let us hear from you. If you have any questions or comments, please don't hesitate to contact us: Rosie Calaway WAØMNL, russ-rosie1@juno.com, 471-9965, or Rick Brown KØSU, k0su@arrl.net, 531-9423.
de WAØMNL

Meetings Our monthly meetings are on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7 pm at Mount Calvary Lutheran Church, 1318 N. Circle Drive, about 1/2 way between Platte Ave and Constitution Ave on N. Circle. Our Annual meeting is in October.

License Exams PPRAA ARRL VE test sessions on the 2nd Saturday of even numbered months at 9 am at the Denver Technical College, 3245 International Cr, across from Memorial Park. Contact Erik KGØXE for details.

Examinees need to bring (1) \$6.65 (Eff. Jan 1, 2000), preferably a check or money order payable to ARRL/VEC (Elements 1 and 2A are free.); (2) picture ID; (3) the signed original and a copy of your current amateur radio license and CSCEs you have (we keep the copies); and (4) a pen, pencil, and calculator if needed. Memory calculators will be checked.

PPRAA Web Page See it at <http://www.qsl.net/ppraa/>. Thanks to Jeff Boyes NØJLH, our webmaster.

Get on the PPRAA E-mail Reflector Stay on top of new or short-fused developments. Send e-mail to majordomo@qth.net; within the body type "subscribe ppraanet".

PPRAA Simplex Net All amateurs are invited to join us on Thursday evenings at 7 pm on 146.58 MHz simplex for our club net. Get the latest club and regional happenings!

The Ø-Beat is published monthly in the interest of the members of the Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association, Inc, P.O. Box 16521, Colorado Springs, CO 80935-6521. Permission is granted to reprint articles provided credit is given to both the author and the Ø-Beat. For membership and subscriptions see the back inside cover of this publication. Monthly advertising rates: Full page \$48; Half page \$24; Quarter page \$12; Business card \$6. Rates are billed quarterly. Send advertisements and payments to Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association, Inc, P.O. Box 16521, Colorado Springs, CO 80935-6521.

Officers and Directors

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| Secretary | Rhoda Anderson | KB2BZY | 634-7168 | wv7t@aol.com |
| Treasurer | Rob Roller | N7LV | 282-0204 | n7lv@amsat.org |
| *Board Member | Moe Pierce | WBØRTF | 550-0406 | wb0rtf@amsat.org |
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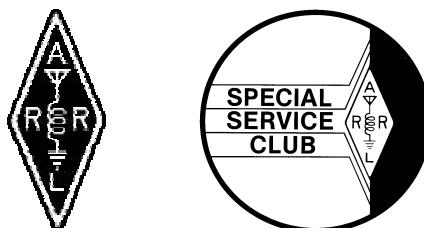
*This Officer/Director is completing the second year of the two-year term to which they were elected.

Committee Chairpersons/Contacts

| Activity | (vacant -- volunteer desperately needed) | | | |
|---------------------|--|--------|----------|-------------------------|
| Auditing | Jerry Allen | NØGCA | 264-1278 | jerall@msn.com |
| Asset | Mike Stansberry | KØTER | 636-1290 | k0ter@arrl.net |
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| Swapfest 2000 | Bob "Rails" Ryals | KIØGF | 265-9950 | rryals@pcisys.net |
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| CCARC Liaison | Ron Deutsch | NKØP | 593-8352 | deutschra@aol.com |
| RACES Officer | John Roberts | KBØVGX | 575-8400 | kb0vgx@worldnet.att.net |

Upcoming Club Programs

March..... Old Timer's Night. We'd like to meet some long-time members. All should bring some old gear. Contact Rosie WAØMNL if you want to participate.
 April..... TBD -- check club web page for any updated information



Articles for the Zero Beat

Deadline for articles or ads is usually the 20th of the month. Submit articles by e-mail, by U.S. Mail to the club's address, or in person to the editor. Editor reserves right to correct for readability, grammar, spelling, length and punctuation.

Nonprofit Organization The PPRAA is a federally recognized 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and welcomes all contributions. Your contributions/donations may be tax-deductible.

General Meeting Minutes

The February 9th, 2000 meeting of the Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association was called to order by President Mike Anderson WV7T at 7:03pm. There were 44 members present. Mike asked for corrections or omissions to the January club meeting minutes as printed in *Ø-Beat*. A motion was approved to accept the minutes. No committee reports. Rob Roller, N7LV, informed the club that *Ø-Beat* is now available in electronic format. *Ø-Beat* will continue in printed form and only the people who specifically request the electronic version would receive it in that format. Jeff NØJLH is the point of contact for requesting the electronic version of the newsletter. Articles to be published in the *Ø-Beat* were also requested from the membership. Swapfest: Ginger and Kim KCØDGK commented about where flyers are going. A thank you went to Dennis NØABC, for making the flyers. Raffle tickets: 1 for \$1, 6-\$5, 15-\$10, 40-\$20. Freezoree:



Marcia KCØFII gave an accounting of the activities at the Freezoree held February 12th at the Air Force Academy. 30 hams came out to support the event with HF and VHF. Linda KBØRKW

gave a report on PPRAA's Novice-Technician class. She informed the club of a VE test session the night of February 10th at 7pm. A request for hams with HTX-202 2m HTs and radios who could attend the next class to assist with demonstrating the radios and how to program and use them correctly [*ed: This demonstration has already taken place*]. It appears Bill Pierce KDØJU has moved another year up the seniority list as he celebrated a birthday recently. His XYL Moe WBØRTF was sure all his friends in the meeting knew and could show him the appropriate congratulations. Carlos thanked the club for the sympathy card his family received from PPRAA. Sid K4ARM also expressed appreciation for the card he received. WAS board: Rosie WAØMNL gave out certificates and returned QSL cards to those hams who had assisted in the club's WAS project. March club meeting: Thanks to Mike KCØDHX, the club will meet in March at the Lockheed plant on Highway 83. There will be a different location in April. Information will be disseminated via the club reflector and elsewhere in this newsletter. March club meeting will be an Old Timers Night. Mike WV7T indicated he has invited the club's 1954 president, Dave WØMEY, to the meeting. There will be a drawing for a Hallicrafters SX-62 receiver. Members are encouraged to bring their vintage equipment in for a 'show-and-tell'

session. VE exams: Rick KØSU mentioned information about the February 10th and 12th VE exam sessions and the MARC March 4th exams. He stated the new question pools were out and available on the ARRL website. Jeff NØJLH and his wife were given a big round of applause for the years being the editorial force behind the *Ø-Beat*. The torch has now been passed to Rob Roller N7LV. Mike WV7T announced there would be a special event station on Monday February 21st to commemorate the 55th anniversary of the raising of the US flag on Iwo Jima. He also stated instructors are still being sought for one-night, 30- to 40-minute miniclasses starting as soon as the Thursday night CW class graduates. New Elmers need to contact Mike WV7T to be placed on the club's Elmer list. Bill KDØJU passed the HAMMY to Marcia Becker KCØFII for her efforts with the Freezoree. The upcoming Skywarn training will be at Agilent Technologies (HP on Garden of the Gods Rd) on April 1st starting at 8 am. POC Doug N4TGO. Reservations are required. Jeff NØJLH displayed 2 coffee cups that the club might consider as a possible fund raising project. Rick KØSU introduced Skee Hipszky NØPRY as the evening's guest speaker on the topic of Winter Survival. Club meeting adjourned at 9:05pm. *Submitted by Rhoda Anderson, KB2BZY, Secretary.*

Board Meeting Minutes

[The next board meeting will be held at Mike & Rhoda's QTH (WV7T & KB2BZY) on Monday Mar 13 at 2815 Main St. RSVP 634-7168.]

The Feb 13, 2000 PPRAA board meeting was called to order by president Mike Anderson WV7T at 2:05pm at the home of Roger French KBØRLF. Board members in attendance: Mike WV7T, Sid K4ARM, Rhoda KB2BZY, Rob N7LV, Rick KØSU, Moe WBØRTF, Bill KDØJU (proxy for Paula KCØAGG), Roger KBØRLF. Mike WV7T asked for corrections or additions for the January board minutes. A motion was made by Bill KDØJU and seconded by Rob N7LV to accept the January board minutes as published in the Zero-Beat. Motion was approved by the board. The club's Special Service Club status expires February. Mike WV7T to address and renew SSC status with ARRL. Treasurer. Rob N7LV. Tax exempt status is not a chartered purpose. Income \$316.00, \$330.00 facilities rental, \$1278.00 for raffle. Total expenses \$1967.23, remaining balance \$1972.75. Suggested amending bylaws regarding e-mail. E-mail between board members good for some instances. Roger KBØRLF motioned to renew membership in Colorado Council of Amateur Radio Clubs (CCARC) @ \$25, seconded by Moe WBØRLF.

Motion passed. Rick KØSU is publicity chairman. There was discussion about life/honorary membership in PPRAA as in other clubs. Rob N7LV discussed the *Ø-Beat* and a suggestion by Sid K4ARM to look at different fonts where text was small as descriptions under pictures. There was discussion about initiating planning now for Field Day and the club picnic. Getting a head start would allow for advance publicity and organizing committees. The question of a joint Field Day with the Mountain Amateur Radio Club (MARC) was brought up. Mike WV7T will contact MARC and find out their plans and report back to the board. Club picnic: The board will look into why the low attendance in 1999 and consider advance planning, avoiding time periods where other activities would draw club members away for service, and focus on advance publicity. Rick KØSU spoke about the dramatic increase in applicants at VE test sessions and that a "paperwork only" session may be in the future for upgrades under the new license restructuring. The board is looking into low-cost headsets and multiconnection boxes for VE team CW testing. Rick KØSU motioned, Sid K4ARM seconded and the board approved setting aside up to \$100 for the headsets and boxes. Mike WV7T reported to the board a request from Marcia Becker KCØFII for reimbursement of monies used to provide propane for Freezoree. Rick made a motion to grant her request, Moe WBØRTF seconded, motion approved. Bill KDØJU volunteered to make the labels for the hamfest tickets but at this time has no computer to run the label program on. Roger KBØRLF inquired if the club was still offering the 6 months free membership to new hams. Yes. Sid K4ARM mentioned he had received a number of computers from the Red Cross to give to people who did not have a computer. Sid was contacted asking to assist in the liquidation of a ham's estate of which a part was placed in consignment with Jess KØTAA. Rob N7LV will put a map showing March meeting location at Lockheed. Kim KCØDGK will be asked to assist in locating a place for the April meeting. Mike WV7T suggested a partial kit forming a simple circuit the could be simply assembled for occasions like JOTA, Freezoree, public displays allowing visitors to sample hands-on electronic building. Asked for VE schedule for posting at Centennial Electronics. Still lining up instructors for one-night technical topic classes. Sid K4ARM suggested emergency communications and antenna building. Roger KBØRLF offered to man PPRAA table at swapfest. (Way to go Roger!) Mike WV7T asked about insuring the upcoming club program and meeting location were included in the *Ø-Beat*. Meeting adjourned 4:10pm.

*Respectfully submitted, Rhoda Anderson, KB2BZY
Secretary*

Treasurer's Report

\$330.00 - \$1,967.23 = (\$1,637.23) (ending 12/31/1999)
Income - Expenses = Gain (Loss)

[Note that the large expenses are due primarily to the purchase of the raffle prizes. Although the raffle money is normally accounted for separately, you should know that it was spent.]

Tax exempt certificate. The state has issued a sales tax exemption certificate to the PPRAA. We're exempt from sales tax on purchases that are made in support of our chartered purposes (education, emergency communications, etc). If you're making such purchases please contact me. Nonprofit committee meeting: The next nonprofit committee meeting will be at my QTH on Mar 19. Please RSVP. *de N7LV*

Member Committee Report

The following members need to see the treasurer:

| | | | |
|---------------------|--------|-------------------|--------|
| SETH BARDASH..... | KIØPE | RICK KILE | WB7THT |
| GEORGE FARINA..... | KBØEXK | MOE PIERCE | WBØRTF |
| DONALD FUHS..... | KEØCQ | BILL PIERCE | KDØJU |
| DAVID HAMULA | WBØFHQ | NICK POWELL | NH6ON |
| MEL HOSEA | W3TMR | DAN SCOTT | KBØPPM |
| SARALEE HOSEA | NØIZQ | BOB SNYDER | KIØQM |
| LYDIA KILE | NØLUG | | |

Other news: Congratulations to George WBØDUM and his wife on their 47th wedding anniversary!

Cellular Phone Abuse?

On January 7, a house bill entitled the "Cellular Phone Abuse Prevention" bill, numbered 00-1156, went to the Transportation and Energy Committee. In a nutshell, it sought to prevent the operation of cell phones, CB radios, and other communications devices while operating a motor vehicle. Fortunately there are some level-headed people around, and they were able to convince the legislators of their imminent mistake. During a hearing in late January several hams (incl KØHBZ, KBØYCI, K4ARM, W5VSI) helped to convince the lawmakers that the bill was wrong. The outcome was the bill was amended to remove references to two-way radios, and it ended up being tabled indefinitely. If it does come back, it should no longer be a threat. **You** can make a difference!



Lunch Bunch

Lunch Bunch meets on Mar 13 at 11:30, Home Town Buffet, Mall at the Bluffs Shopping Center, Austin Bluffs & N. Academy. Contact Ginger Hipszky NØUOD for details. See you there!



Winter Training Key to Survival

Skee Hipszky NØPRY gave an excellent and informative talk on winter survival at the Feb meeting. Without recreating the entire program, he did emphasize a "coffee can kit" which we should carry in our vehicles. It contains enough essential supplies which could make the difference between life and death. Here's what Skee suggests we all carry: Large coffee can (obviously), sterno or long burn candle (e.g., to heat water), can or pot holder (to collect snow to melt for water), lighter or matches, instant soup mix, hot chocolate or tea, Tootsie rolls, deck of cards (for the long wait to be rescued), pen or pencil and paper (if you want to keep a diary), a 4-ft piece of brightly colored flagging (to tie to your antenna), small metal cup, Mag-Liteâ flashlight (with fresh batteries, of course), personal prescriptions and medications, and a space blanket. Also beneficial are regular blankets or sleeping bag, a signaling mirror, and common sense. Skee says your best bet is to stay with the car. It's your shelter, and in a severe blizzard, wandering only 30 feet can be enough to disorient you.

A Bit of PPRAA History

From the 1941 *Ø-Beat*, on May 9, 1941 a motion was approved to take a "Sky Buddy" to Bob Zimky's house until the club house is ready (does anyone remember Bob Zimky?) On May 16, 1941, Pres. Schisler presided as the members passed a motion to throw out the junk including coal, "code osc." and wet magazines. The club also voted to let club members only operate the club equipment. On May 23, 1941 the members then voted to allow women to become members of the club. On May 30, 1941 the club held discussion on Field Day. Mrs. Schisler's application was received and accepted by unanimous vote. (Does any one know if she was the first female club member? *Rosie* says, "Probably!") Rosie is believed to be the first female club president. On May 14, 1952 the club had 17 members and 10 visitors at the meeting. A report was given on a test of 2m from Cheyenne Mtn. The test got on TV but not 2m. "Must have been a little off frequency!" was the report. 7 rigs were promised for Field Day with their own power supplies. On Feb 11, 1959 a motion presented by

WØYJO, KØGBS, WØCVG, KØDSI, WØSWS, WØVLY, and KØKLD to change the name of the club to "Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association." Prior to this, the club was named the El Paso Radio Club. The motion was voted on and carried. On Apr 18, 1959 a contest was held to select a club emblem and was won by Bill Baker. In May 1969, the club president was Pete KØUDG. The club met at the U.S. Naval Reserve Training Center. The FCC charged \$4 for hams licenses (many complained that the \$4 was too high.) Military to amateur radio crossband test were to be conducted on Armed Forces Day. On May 17 the club call, WAØVTU, was issued and would be used on the new repeater to be placed on Cheyenne Mountain. In May 1972 the club president was George WØGCH, and Frank Still was the *Ø-Beat* editor. The *Ø-Beat* also reflected the coming age by having a column titled "Understanding Computers." In the June 25, 1972 issue, the Colorado Springs Sun reported that the Colorado Springs hams were active in passing traffic from the East Coast due to Hurricane Agnes. At the same time a tornado struck in Dumas, Texas. *de KAØROZ*

A Bit of Radio History

Radio has been around in practical use since the turn of the 20th century, but the pieces of science leading up to radio were discovered back around 1831, when Faraday discovered electromagnetic induction between two circuits. In 1887 Heinrich Hertz demonstrated electromagnetic waves had the same properties as light waves, and it was his theories upon which all modern radio signals are based. Soon patents were being issued for transmitters or receivers of electromagnetic signals. In 1897 Guglielmo Marconi's first experiments were conducted over a distance of about 15 miles. On Dec 12, 1901 Marconi transmitted a Morse signal between England and New Foundland. Even before this 1901 experiment, ships at sea were already using Morse telegraphy to communicate. At sea, wireless was immensely important for ship safety. One of the first recorded uses of radio to assist in a ship's accident was on March 3, 1899, and we've all heard of the S.S. Titanic accident on April 15, 1912. If you saw the movie *Titanic* you'd know they used the signal CQD as a distress signal. Actually both SOS and CQD were in use at that time. And today, we use SOS as the distress signal. How did that come to be? In 1904, Marconi Company had adopted CQ as its inquiry signal, a signal sent to attract the attention of any other operators. It typically preceded broadcasts so one station could send to many. The letter D meant with "distress" so a CQD meant "all

stations: distress". About the same time, Germany had adopted the signal SOE to mean the same as the Marconi CQ. The German distress signal was formed from SOE, but the last letter was changed to S. By 1908 SOS became the international standard for distress. CQ is still the international signal for an inquiry or "calling any station" signal. The international regulators selected CQ and SOS (rather than CQ and CQD or SOE and SOS) to eliminate any chance of confusion if only a partial (CQ vs CQD, or SOE vs SOS) was received. In 1912, when the Titanic sank, they primarily used the CQD signal instead of SOS. The US was slow in adopting international standards then, and Marconi operators used both CQD and SOS for a short time longer.

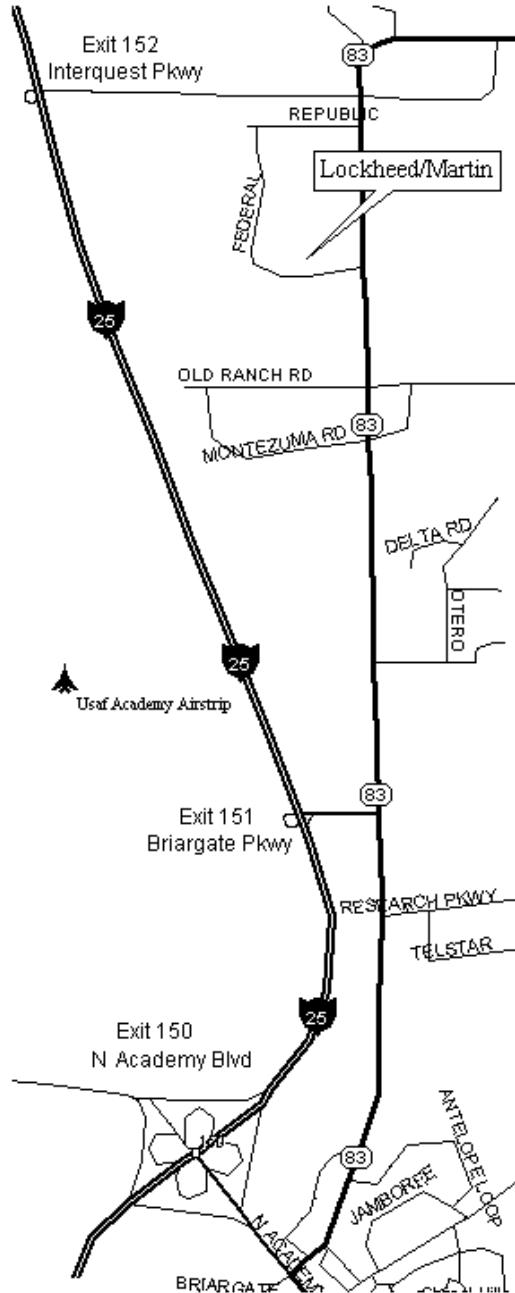
GOTA!

It was kind of a last minute effort, but a number of hams pulled together for a fine demo of ham radio to the area's Girl Scouts. On Feb 19 Wes and Carol KØHBZ and KCØDTQ generously gave up time to help coordinate this event, and other hams showed up to operate and answer questions about ham radio. GOTA, or Guides on the Air, is an on-the-air event introducing Guides and Girl Scouts to ham radio. (Guides are the Canadian equivalent of Girl Scouts.) Using two HF stations and two V/UHF stations, local Scouts spent a few hours on the air with other Scouts. There were mostly scripted questions, but a few girls got onto topics like music and boys. (Well, what do you expect?) Conditions were fair on 10 and 15, better on 20. The hardest thing about working with young girls is their voices don't carry well on the air. High pitch and low volume makes for many requests for repeats. The V/UHF station was used internal to the gym so the Scouts could get familiar with talking in to a mic. It was easy -- they could talk over the radio and wave to each. John NØQJS had his ATV transmitter running so the Scouts could watch themselves on TV. All in all it was a fun short day! Appreciate the work by KØHBZ, KCØDTQ, WV7T, KB2BZY, KBØYCI, K4ARM, WAØMNL, KBØFNM, N7LV, NØQJS, KØTSR, KBØPPM, KDØJU, WBØRTF, NØBN, NØZPX, WØIVB, KCØDTP. (Apologies if anyone is omitted; I had no list.)

Temporary Meeting Location

The March mtg will be at Lockheed, corner of Federal and CO Hwy 83, just north of Old Ranch Rd. Meet in Bldg 2, the northerly of the two buildings. See the map. Talk-in on 146.58 MHz. Thanks to Mike Beck KCØDHX for securing the location. The April mtg will

also be at a temp location. Carol KCØDTQ has arranged for us to meet at her church, the First Christian Church, 16 E. Platte Ave, corner of Cascade & Platte. Parking is on the N side of the church, and the entrance is also on the N side. We have the church from 1815 'til about 2130. Thanks, Carol!



Take I-25 to the Briargate Pkwy exit 151. Take Hwy 83 N about 1.2 miles to Federal, where you'll see a white sign for Lockheed/Martin. Turn L into the complex. If you come up Academy instead, turn N on Hwy 83 just after Chapel Hills Mall, then go N on Hwy 83 for 2.4 miles to Federal. Enter Bldg 2, through the doors at the SE corner of the building.

Public Service and Emergency Communications Activities

The PPRAA is an ARRL Special Services Club, but it is not an emergency services club itself. The PPRAA supports all amateur radio involvement in public service and emergency communications in any way it can, including reporting activities happening in the region. These columns are based on available knowledge, and the opinions expressed are not necessarily the opinions of RACES, ARES, Skywarn or any other organization or its leadership. Logos used with permission.

Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service



<http://www.qsl.net/epcraces/>

Work continues on the communications dispatch console. Mark Hatcher NØNKA is the project leader, so if you're interested in assisting contact Mark. If you haven't seen this console begin to take shape, you really should. This is going to be quite a nice setup. The Feb meeting was a little light in terms of attendance (this column is correspondingly light) due to the weather. That was a slippery night! Many folks had a tough time getting home from work at a decent hour, let alone trying to make the meeting. Ham classes will be done by the next meeting on March 16, so it'll be back in the main OEM room. RACES should grow a little as a result of holding the ham class at the OEM. Having the classes at the OEM is a great recruiting tool!

to Mike KØTER who coordinated the facility and to Tom Magnuson KBØZWX, PUB NWS, for setting aside valuable time to train. PPARES needs Skywarn and mid-day NCSs. Local amateurs play a key role reporting real-time WX events and storm damage to the Pueblo NWS. Much effort is extended to notify Skywarn folks via telephone, alpha pagers and the 146.97 WX page (DTMF 697) in coordination with NWS and other ARES served agencies. Amateurs can use several methods to obtain current status and WX forecasts: NOAA WX on 162.475 MHz; 146.97 Skywarn alert page (697 DTMF); alpha-text pagers (PPARES page or via common carriers). Via packet on 144.93 MHz: ARES Packet Cluster (WAØVTU) and EMWIN (N4TGO WX PBBS). Via internet: PPARES e-mail reflector; <http://iwin.nws.noaa.gov/iwin/co/co.html>; PUB NWS <http://www.crh.noaa.gov/pub/>; free WX bulletins via <http://wx4u.com/>. Also via TV and radio stations, PPARES Mid-Day WX Net (1230 on 146.97, 15 May - 15 Jul). N4TGO has developed a PPARES Skywarn web page at <http://www.qsl.net/n4tgo/index.html> which contains net scripts, flood gauge locations, safety information and a connectivity diagram of the PPARES EMWIN system. Don't hesitate to volunteer - it can be fun and stressful all at the same time! Look forward to working with all Skywarn personnel in 2000.

Amateur Radio Emergency Service



<http://www.qsl.net/n7lv/dist14.htm>

Welcome back to Larry Dunn N9HSW, who takes over as EC after Warren WØYNE. Larry was EC prior to Warren's term, too. The 2000 Skywarn season is under way in the region. Pikes Peak ARES (PPARES) and the Pueblo National Weather Service will host training on 1 Apr at Agilent Technologies Bldg "C" (formerly Hewlett-Packard), 1900 Garden of the God Rd, (W of I-25). Talk-in on the PPFMA 146.97. You must register with N4TGO by e-mail (n4tgo@qsl.net), packet (N4TGO@NØWPA) or by telephone at 528-8540. You'll get a confirmation within 24 hours; if the class is full you'll be put on a waiting list. Training is free and open to all amateurs; some seats are reserved for search and rescue, fire and police personnel. A big thanks

President's Soapbox

I think Marcia Becker KCØFII did a wonderful job of coordinating the Freezoree. A relatively new ham, she jumped right in and made sure this event would be one the Scouts would not soon forget; quite a few of the academy cadets showed interest as well, one of which I made a new friend of and am now exchanging e-mail. Volunteerism isn't dead, but so much of the time it's the same people who do a great deal of the work. Over and over they reach in somewhere and pull out motivation and energy and work hard to accomplish the impossible. Like Marcia, all it takes is a desire to help out a little, to take some of the load off those who do so much. On many an occasion a request for volunteers goes out, for someone to simply assist, and many times the silence is deafening. One day those hard-charging souls will burn out like a candle lit at both ends, exhausted, with nothing left to give. Will there be someone to pick up where they left off? While these hearty folks are still in there others should be shadowing them to see what and how they perform the month-to-month miracles. We should not only help the public but ourselves as well. Share some of the work that goes into what we do as hams. I have heard it said, "What you get out of something is what you put into it."

Field Day Coming Up

Now is the time to start thinking about Field Day, which is only a few short months away! One thing to think about is where will it be? Mike WV7T is currently conducting a poll on where YOU want to have Field Day this year. We've been sharing the duties with the Mountain ARC, and have more or less been alternating with them as to holding it in Woodland Park or in COS. So Mike is putting the question to you: Hewlett-Packard camping facility in Teller Co, or the USAFA? Please call Mike with your vote. You can also start thinking about what station you want to set up, or operate on. We'll need plenty of operators!

Other Upcoming Hamfests

- **Mar 11:** Denver Radio League Hamfest, Douglas Co. Fairgrounds, Castle Rock. Contact Chris KBØYRZ, kb0yrz@yahoo.com.
- **Apr 1:** Longmont ARC Hamfest, 0800, Boulder Co. Fairgrounds, talk-in 147.27+, 156.52, food, prizes, VE testing, Contact WØHCH, 303-678-1525, jcdavis@ball.com, www.qsl.net/larc/
- **May 6:** PPRAA Hamfest, COS, 0800 - 1400, Lewis-Palmer High School, Monument, \$4



admission, talk-in on 146.97 or 146.52, forums, prizes, food, VE testing. Contact Bob Ryals KIØGF, 719-265-9950, rryals@pcisys.net.

- **Aug 25-27:** Mountain ARC Campfest, Woodland Park. Contact Wes Wilson KØHBZ, 719-687-8758, wlw@prodigy.net www.qsl.net/nx0g/

CCARC Meeting Scheduled

The Colorado Council of Amateur Radio Clubs (CCARC) is holding its next meeting on Mar 25. Besides officer elections, the top agenda item is to elect a new frequency coordinator for Colorado. After a very long time, Whit Brown WBØCJX is stepping down. Our rep

to the CCARC is Ron Deutsch NKØP; please contact him if you have further questions. The meeting will be at 1 pm at the Consolidated Mutual Water facilities, 12700 W. 27th Ave, Lakewood.

Dits and Bits

- **For Sale:** Icom equipment: IC-PS15 power supply \$77; ICSP3 External speaker \$40; SM-8 desk mic, make offer; IC-AT500 HF full automatic antenna tuner, make offer; IC-751A HF all band xcvr, SSB/CW/RTTY/AM/FM), \$610. Call Mike O'Hara 427-1515 (home) 333-3904 (work/cell).
- **Equipment Swap/Sale:** HP 5381A freq counter 80 MHz: \$100; HP 34702A multimeter (O/AC-DC volts) (\$50); IQ voice pocket organizer model 5150: \$50 (see info at <http://www.vpti.com>); HP 608E sig gen, 10 - 450 MHz: \$200; Tektronix 575 transistor curve tracer: \$300; stereo speakers, Fischer ST832, (3" tweeter, 4" midrange, 15" woofer, 8 ohms, 100W: \$100; Motorola HT440 on 448.45 MHz (no PL); Kenwood TH-21AT with PL HT: \$100; PRC-6 military FM walkie talkie (Israeli model) operational on 6 meters: \$200; Dana digital multimeter model 460: \$50; Motorola G43 155 MHz desktop base station (Big Red "M" on TX): \$100; many astronomy books - send for list; Motorola L41GGV trunk mount 40-50 MHz mobile \$50; L43GGV 2 freq 150 MHz YJ/YR mobile: \$50; Gonset G-150 Communicator 12 VDC (aviation band) 10W AM: \$100; HP 8601A sweeping sig gen .1- 111 MHz: \$500; Sun Research UPS, 12VDC in, 120VAC 120 Hz out, 150W: \$50; NovAtel (CarComm) cellular mobile phone, trunk mount, 3 W, 832 channels w/acc: \$300; old ITU call books, ITU list VIIB 1962, 272p, 1957 - 1173p, list of ships 1962 595p, alphabetical list dated 1943 (recovered from a WWII OSS monitoring station in Reseda CA 336pages). Paul WØRW, w0rw@aol.com, POB 6069, COS 80934, 632-2829.
- **For Sale:** HTX-202, 2 Meter handheld, rebuilt NiCad battery pack, usual accessories, speaker mic: \$75.00 Free to a good home: Tektronics RM-561 rack mount o-scope, 4 or 5 plugins. Rick Brown KØSU, k0su@arrl.net, 531-9423(h) 591-3741 (w).
- **Wanted:** Manual for an Icom 751A, or some help with resetting the radio after a lithium battery has died. Curtis or Kim Knott, KB2ZVX or KCØDGK, knott3x@uswest.net, 597-5308.

PPRAA Helps with Falconsat Success

Lots of things happening in space communications lately: shuttle mapping the Earth, Mir getting a new crew, and it's still up in the air, but maybe Phase IIID will go up this year. But on a more local scene, there's quite a buzz at the USAFA Dept of Astronautics with their Falconsat finally in orbit as of late January. This 110 lb, 17"x18"x18" spacecraft is a research satellite collecting data on spacecraft charging in a low-earth orbit. This is mentioned here because the satellite is controlled by cadets who are hams. While the downlink is in the military UHF band at 400.475 MHz, the uplink is in the amateur 2m band. A team of PPRAA VE members visited the USAFA late last year to administer exams, and a small number of cadets and one professor earned their Tech license, allowing them to control the spacecraft on ham frequencies.

Special Event Station

On Feb 21st KØUSN was activated to commemorate the 55th anniversary of the Battle for Iwo Jima. Operators were Mike WV7T, Robert KCØFIH and Marcia KCØFII. Visitors were Rosie and Russ WAØMNL and KBØFNM. Contacts were made on 10 and 15 m with stations from British Columbia to NY, from MN to GA, plus local contacts on 146.52 MHz. The station consisted of a Icom 706 and R-7 antenna. Certificates will be given out for local contacts at the March meeting.

FCC & Licensing & Testing

Due to all of the interest in upgrading, the PPRAA VE team will hold a special "paper only" session on Sat, Apr 15 at the Denver Technical College main building (not the annexed building). There will be no testing; instead it'll be only for those meeting the new requirements to upgrade based on CSCEs and licenses held. There'll be a few changes to make things run smoother, thanks to some suggestions from the MARC team. The PPRAA will have normal sessions on Mar 9 (licensing class at EPC OEM), Apr 5 (regular location), and May 6 (swapfest, co-teaming with MARC). MARC will test on Mar 4. If you're planning on upgrading after Apr 15, there are new question pools available on the internet at <http://www.arrl.org/>

Freezoree

The Freezoree at the USAFA Feb 5 was a great SUCCESS!! We started setting up about noon on Friday. I'd been forewarned we'd have snow IN our tent so I had

my snow shovel. I hadn't counted on running into a good friend who had a troop of boys. They'd arrived early for sign-in so they volunteered to shovel our tent out. *Thank You Troop 124!!!!* We spent the afternoon getting trailers situated and antennas put up. Saturday morning brought warmer temperatures and MUD! We did fine with that and all the volunteers arrived to put things in motion. We had a good turnout of Scouts. I received suggestions so next year may run a bit more smoothly and have more hand-on items for the Scouts. Thanks to EVERYONE who helped out and who gave me words of advice on how

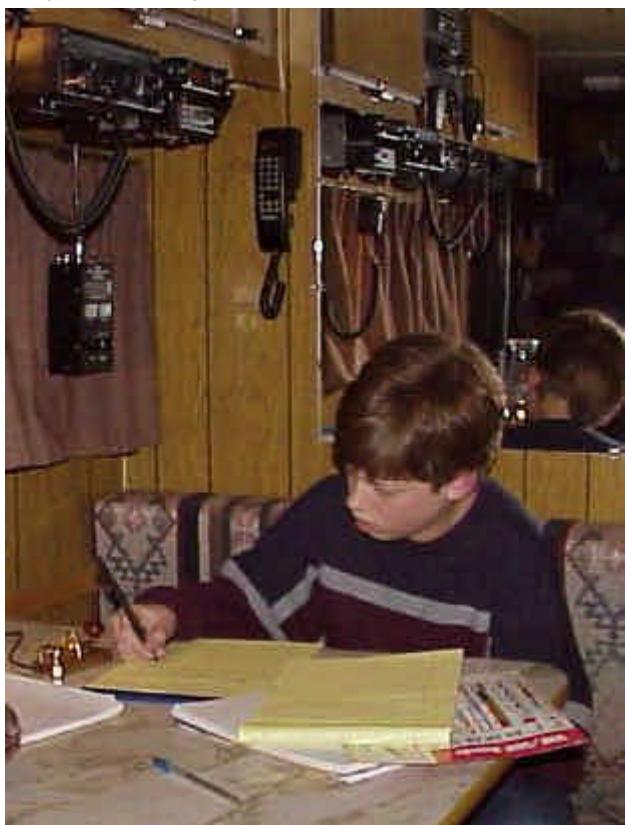


a Jeff NØWPA (w/the shades) demos ATV while Scouts look at other displays.

to handle this event. I must confess that I must've e-mailed Wes Wilson at least once a day with a question of some sort. It got such that I would put "It's your pain in the neck" in the subject line. He certainly was a great sport about it and very helpful. I sure enjoyed working with *all of you* and really appreciated the chance to get to know you all a bit better.

Volunteers (in no particular order) were KCØFII Marcia, KCØFIH Robert, WØIVB Ray, KBØPPM Dan, KD6FLM Aaron, NØABC Dennis, NØKIC John, KØHBZ Wes, KØTER Mike, NØNKG Ted, NØQJS John, NØWPA Jeff, WBØDUM George, KCØGBG Don, NØJLH Jeff, WV7T Mike, KB2BZY Rhoda, KDØJU Bill, WBØRTF Moe, K4ARM Sid, KCØFNQ Ralph, KCØGYT Dave, KCØGLQ Ryan, NØMIK Mike, KCØESX Shane, KCØDTQ Carol, NØCYR Jake, KCØFIA Kjell, KIØRA Vern, KCØDTP Al, KCØAER Paula, KBØVVA Dean, KCØGYM Eric. *de KCØFII (Photos by K4ARM)*

• Ryan KC0GLQ gets in a little CW practice inside Wes' trailer



So You Want Your Own Freq?

Although there is no FCC rule that specifies on which freqs within a band you can operate (given your license restrictions), there are rules which state that operators must make an effort to reduce or eliminate interference to other stations. There are also voluntary band plans which help you select your frequency to minimize interference and get the most use out of the band. What's the point? Within the 144-148 MHz (2m) band, although you might think it's simple to arbitrarily select any one of 800 5-kHz spaced channels, it's not that simple. So you want to go to a quiet channel with your spouse and be relatively free of busy repeaters and others that need to use the freq. Conceptually that's fine, but don't just go out and say, "Well, let's go to 144.400. That sounds like nice round number, and I don't think there's a repeater there." But did you check? How do you know? What's close by that you'll interfere with? Well, this calls for a little consultation with the band plan for 2m. This plan shows that if you did pick 144.400 as "your" frequency, you would be in the middle of the OSCAR subband, and you'd also be only 10 kHz from the new APRS frequency. That's close enough in frequency where you'll cause interference to APRS users. Some might not take too kindly to that. Okay, you've checked and found a 2m simplex freq at 146.560. Got a nice ring to it. Well,

guess what? You'll still cause interference 'cause you're now only 5 kHz from the standard simplex freq of 146.565, and you're 10 kHz from 146.550. Granted, there might not be someone using those frequencies at the moment, but if there were, you may be violating the rules. The point here is that you should learn about how the band is split up before you venture into spectrum unknown. Know that in most areas in the US, the 2m band (repeater and simplex subbands) is split into 15 kHz spaced channels (some areas use 20 kHz spacing). If you remember the magical 15 kHz, and can add or subtract from known popular frequencies, you shouldn't have an interference problem.

| 2M SIMPLEX/REPEATER BAND PLAN | | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|--|
| Smplx/ Rptr | Freq Range | Typical Chan Spacing | Freqs |
| R(in) | 144.51-144.9 | 15/20 kHz | These are the -600 kHz offsets from the next row of outputs |
| R(out) | 145.11-145.5 | 15/20 kHz | Some areas use 15 kHz, others use 20 kHz COS has rptrs on 145.13, 145.16, 145.265, so it's 15 kHz here |
| R(in) | 146.01-146.37 | 15/20 kHz | Start at 146.01 and add multiples of 15 kHz up to 146.37 |
| S | 146.40-146.58 | 15/20 kHz | Start at 146.4 and add multiples of 15 kHz up to 146.58 |
| R(out) | 146.61-146.985 | 15/20 kHz | Start at 146.61 and add multiples of 15 kHz up to 146.985 (these correspond to inputs between 146.01 and 146.37) |
| R(out) | 147.0-147.39 | 15/20 kHz | Start at 147.0 and add multiples of 15 kHz up to 147.39 (these correspond to inputs between 147.6 and 147.99) |
| S | 147.42-147.57 | 15/20 kHz | Start at 147.42 and add multiples of 15 kHz up to 147.57 |
| R(in) | 147.6-147.99 | 15/20 kHz | Start at 147.6 and add multiples of 15 kHz up to 147.99 |

Tip: Repeaters with outputs above 147.0 MHz typically have inputs + 600 kHz, while repeaters with outputs below 147.0 typically have inputs - 600 kHz. Not a hard and fast rule, but there are very few exceptions.

Pikes Peak Region Ham Event Calendar

| March / April 2000 | | | | | | |
|--------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------|---|
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
| | | | 1 | 2 Ham Class | 3 | 4 MARC VE Testing Hamfest Mtg |
| 5 PPFMA Annual Mtg | 6 | 7 Ham Class | 8 PPRAA Mtg | 9 Lunch Bunch Ham Class w/VE Session | 10 | 11 DRL Hamfest Castle Rock |
| 12 Fox Hunt | 13 Board Mtg | 14 | 15 MARC Mtg | 16 RACES Mtg | 17 St. Patty's Day | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 CCARC Mtg |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 Skywarn Trng Hamfest Mtg Longmont Hamfest |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 PPRAA VE Testing |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 PPRAA Mtg | 13 Lunch Bunch | 14 | 15 License Restructuring Goes into Effect |
| 16 Fox Hunt | 17 Board Mtg | 18 | 19 MARC Mtg | 20 RACES Mtg | 21 | 22 |
| 23 Easter | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 March of Dimes Walk |
| 30 | | | | | | |

Future Dates to Note: PPRAA Swapfest May 6; Field Day June 24-5

| Membership Application for the Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association, Inc. | | |
|---|--|----------------------------------|
| P.O. Box 16521, Colorado Springs, CO 80935-6521 | | |
| Date: _____ | New Member <input type="checkbox"/> | Renewal <input type="checkbox"/> |
| In which activities would you like to participate? | | |
| Name: _____ | Field Day <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| Address: _____ | Demonstrations <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ | Nets or round tables <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| Teach ham classes <input type="checkbox"/> | Organize activities <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| Call: _____ Class: N T + G A E Phone: _____ | Full Member \$15: <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| Mbr of ARRL? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> E-mail: _____ | Family Membership \$18: <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| Additional Family Members to Join/Renew: | Over 65 \$10: <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| Name: _____ Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL? _____ | Over 65 Family \$12: <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| Name: _____ Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL? _____ | Associate \$12: <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| Name: _____ Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL? _____ | Ø-Beat Only \$12: <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| ARRL Dues Incl'd \$34: <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Donation to Club: _____ | | |
| <u>Total Enclosed:</u> | | |
| Would you like to receive Ø-Beat electronically via e-mail in PDF format instead of a printed copy? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Circle your interests <input type="checkbox"/> HF V/UHF FM SSB Digital DX Contests Technical Hardware Other _____ | | |
| Renew your ARRL membership through the PPRAA! Send your ARRL renewal form and your check for the amount due to the ARRL to the PPRAA. Make the check payable to the PPRAA. The PPRAA will forward your renewal form to the ARRL. The PPRAA keeps \$2 as a donation or commission, and pays the difference to the ARRL. | | |
| New and renewing members must submit a completed application form along with your check to the Treasurer. Please Type or Print Clearly! | | |

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| BUTTERNUT HF5-B HF beam 10 12 15 17 & 20m good cond. \$150 | KENWOOD TS930S , very nice, \$775 |
| COLLINS 30L1 Amp. 4-811A poor face \$450 | KENWOOD 2100 , HF SWR / wattmeter, matches most Kenwood, \$75 |
| COLLINS 30L1 Amp. 4-811A Very good cond. \$500 | MFJ 9406X 6mtr ssb, new \$250, used \$175, cw adapter \$40 |
| HEATHKIT SB220 amp, 10-80m, excellent cond, 2kw, \$450 | TUCKER T-3000 Digital Antenna Tuner 3kw PEP, cross-needle meter \$275 |
| ICOM 735 , with hand mic, electronic keyer, and mounting bracket, \$625, alone \$600 | YAESU FT101E , xcvr with hand mic, good cond, \$325, also B & EE, \$300 each |
| ICOM 745 , with internal PS, loaded with filters and TCXO, \$600 | YAESU FT101ZD , digital, great cond, \$450 |
| ICOM 751A , nice, \$750 | YAESU FT102 , digital, am/fm, WARC, excellent cond, \$550 |
| KENWOOD TS140S , \$550 | YAESU FT757GX , completely overhauled, excellent cond, \$575 |
| KENWOOD TS440S , \$750, TS440S/AT, \$850 | YAESU FC757 , auto antenna tuner, excellent \$250, purchase 757GX and auto tuner together, \$775 |
| KENWOOD TS520 , \$325 | YAESU FTV707 , Transverter, 6m module installed, for FT707-901-902, \$200 |
| KENWOOD TS520SE , 160-10m, \$375 | YAESU FT109RH , 220MHz HT, 4W, \$150, with tone encoder installed \$175 |
| | YAESU FRG7 , general coverage receiver, very nice, \$150 |

Complete line of ARRL books in stock, Mirage Amps in stock, good stock of new & used 2m and dual band rigs, new and used HF/VHF/UHF accessories, batteries and antennas, Now stocking 50ft telescopic masts \$105 coax: 58/U, 8/U, 8/X, 213/U, 9913, 450 ohm ladder line 1-500ft. baluns, insulators, rotor cable 2&6 HD & extra HD.

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Feb 2000

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To:

IMPORTANT NEWS! MEETING LOCATION CHANGED! SEE PG 6